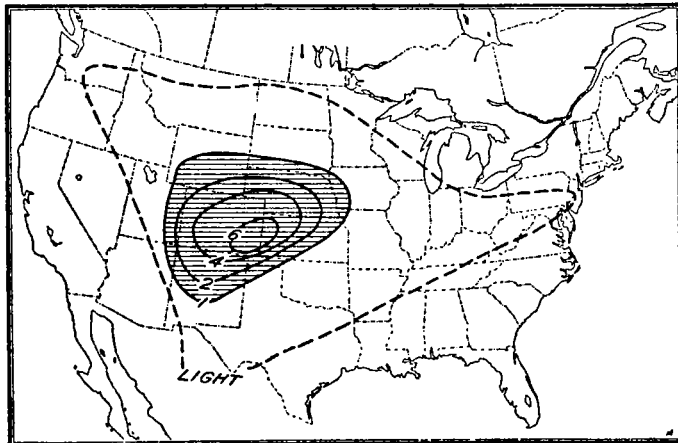


## DUSTSTORMS OF MAY 1936 IN THE UNITED STATES

By R. J. MARTIN

[Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., May 1936]

Duststorms were less frequent during May than in the preceding month, and dense dust occurred over a smaller area. Comparison of the accompanying chart with that



Number of days with duststorms, or dusty conditions, May 1936.

appearing in the April issue of this REVIEW shows that the maximum number of dense duststorms decreased by about 50 percent, while the area covered was considerably smaller, especially from Texas northeastward.

Dense dust was reported in Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado. In several of the States named, only limited areas were affected; this is especially true of Oklahoma, Texas, and Arizona.

Light dust was more widespread in the Northwest than during April; Walla Walla, Wash. reported dust on 8 days and Yakima on 1. Dusty conditions were noted as far east as Reading, Pa., though in large Ohio Valley districts no dust was reported. At Reading, dust was only sufficient to cause colorful sunsets, while Chicago experienced a light mudfall on the 31st.

In central and northern sections there was some property loss from these storms; in portions of Minnesota seeded fields were damaged where grain was not high enough to keep the soil from being blown away, while at other stations only human discomfort resulted. At numerous other stations in these areas dust was reported aloft.

Colorado again had severe duststorms; they were especially frequent in southeastern counties, where the ground was cultivated extensively last year. In parts of Baca County heavy dust was reported blowing from fields an hour or two after rainfalls of one-half inch or more. The storms of the 19th-22d at times reduced visibility to 25 feet, making driving and flying conditions hazardous.

The shaded area on the chart outlines those sections where dense dust was reported.

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C. FITZHUGH TALMAN, in Charge of Library

## RECENT ADDITIONS

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